

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK**

January 26, 2012

5:30 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Mayor Donald Kasprzak, Councilors Tim Carpenter (W1), Mark Tiffer (W2), Jim Calnon (W4), Chris Case (W5), Chris Jackson (W6)

Absent: Councilor George Rabideau (W3)

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Common Council held on January 19, 2012 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Carpenter; Seconded by Councilor Tiffer
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:

RESOLVED: That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the week ending January 25, 2012 in the amount of \$ 257,687.11 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby empowered and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Calnon; Seconded by Councilor Jackson
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the week of January 19 – January 25, 2012
- Report from the Building Inspector's Office from November 28, 2011 – January 20, 2012

RESOLVED: That the reports as read are hereby ordered, received and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Carpenter; Seconded by Councilor Case
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

4. CORRESPONDENCE & RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None

5. **AUDIT OF CLAIMS:**

RESOLVED: That the bills Audited by the Common Council in the amount of \$ 1,507,845.05 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk (where required) are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Case
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

6. **PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL: None**

7. **OTHER ITEMS:**

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Contract # 2011-26 "Liquid Alum" be awarded to Thatcher Company of NY for a total cost of \$8,957.52.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Case
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

B. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Contract # 2011-25 "15% Sodium Hypochlorite – Trade solution for Water Pollution Control Plant and Water Filtration Plant" be awarded to Surpass Chemical Company, Inc for a total cost of \$81,450.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Case
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

C. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Contract # 2010-1 "Laboratory Service Water Pollution Control Plant" be extended until March 31, 2013 and that the Mayor be authorized to execute the necessary documents.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Case
Discussion: None
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)
ACTION TAKEN: Adopted
Follow up Action: None

D. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Sunrise Rotary and CVPH to establish a route from the CVPH entrance on Beekman Street, turning right on to Cornelia Street traveling up to the CVPH Cornelia Street entrance for a horse and wagon ride during a Winter Carnival on Saturday, February 4, 2012 from Noon – 3 pm. The Rotary Organization is the Insurance holder.

By Councilor Calnon; Seconded by Councilor Carpenter

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

E. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves an Extra Work Order for CHA to perform a Bathometric Survey of Westbrook 1 in the amount not to exceed \$4,500 and that the Mayor be authorized to execute all necessary paperwork.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Case

Discussion:

Councilor Case said what is a Bathometric Survey, Jon?

Environmental Manager Jon Ruff said it is a measure of the bottom of the Reservoir beneath the water. So we measure the bottom of the Reservoir we can compare it pre-sedimentation levels to post-sedimentation levels to determine how much sediment we've got in there now.

Councilor Case said in the process does the sediment have to be removed?

Environmental Manager Jon Ruff said that's what we're trying to figure out. If there is so much sediment in there that we should do a removal and if so how much sediment is there so we can estimate the extent of the project. We are also trying to see if we can determine if Hurricane Irene caused sediment to end up in the Reservoirs also that's going to be a little more tricky. We can figure out how much sediment's there how much we can attribute to the hurricane vs. what was naturally occurring prior is going to be a little more difficult.

Councilor Case said are those done on a certain timetable or just when you are doing work on the dam?

Environmental Manager Jon Ruff said no we haven't done one historically. We did a partial one three or four years ago right around the dam itself to get a feel for how much sediment was there. So if we proceed with replacement of the dam we know what we're dealing with. So we've got a little bit of a base line there but not all the way up. We do know the elevation of the intakes and it makes sense that the bottom of the Reservoir wouldn't be much if any lower than the lowest intake that's out there. So we kind of have a real base line we can guess at as far as the bottom.

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Calnon, Case, Jackson
(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

8. TRAVEL REQUEST:

A. RESOLVED: In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves one Fire Fighter to attend the “NYS Academy of Fire Science” in Montour Falls, NY from March 5 – May 17, 2012 at a cost not to exceed \$3000.

By Councilor Carpenter; Seconded by Councilor Case

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted

Follow up Action: None

9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION:

1. Request from Bill Treacy, Manager MLD to award PMLD Bid No. 2011-12-1 “Utility Wood Poles” to Thomasson Company in the total amount of \$11,078.40.
2. Request from Keith Herkalo to reproduce portions of the images generated for the Heritage Trail interpretive signage for use as illustrations in the reprinting of his book “September Eleventh 1814: the Battles at Plattsburgh which will be released nationally in the early summer of 2012.
3. Request from Police Chief Desmond Racicot to continue the contract with Ron Santor as the “Basic Academy Director” for 2012 for the total cost of \$15,000 which is the same as in the past.
4. Request from Police Chief Desmond Racicot to continue the contract with Ron Santor as the Police Department’s “Training Director” for 2012 for the total cost of \$20,000 which is the same as in the past.
5. Request from Police Chief Desmond Racicot to continue the contract with James Burgess as the Nuisance Animal Control Officer for 2012 for the total cost of \$25,000 which is the same as in the past.
6. Request from Police Chief Desmond Racicot to continue the contract with ELMORE SPCA, INC. for Animal Shelter Services for 2012 for the sum of \$10,868 which is the same as last year.

7. Request from the Community Development Office for permission to advertise for bids for Housing Rehab (16 Elizabeth Street – Jock).

10. NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Kasprzak said I saw the PO for Cathedral we're all set for the printing of our tax bills.

City Chamberlain Richard Marks said that PO is for the advance postage costs they mail them directly from the printer.

Mayor Kasprzak said do you have any idea how quickly we will be sending them out.

City Chamberlain Richard Marks said probably by next Friday.

Corporation Counsel John Clute said we have been talking about this \$25,000 Street Scrape grant which we had intended to use to convert an old abandoned rail spur down on Green Street in to a walking path that would connect our waterfront trail with Bridge Street. The problem is that we've got a couple of extensions on this grant and if we don't use it before it expires then we will lose the grant and we will get a black mark next to our name for not effectively using funds that have been granted to us. What I am recommending we do is request New York State's permission to transfer this grant from this Green Street project to one that I am confident we can get up and running within 60 or 90 days is and that's implementing this digital sign project.

Councilor Calnon said we had talked about the kiosk near the parking lot.

Corporation Counsel John Clute said there are two locations. The way this money was approved was a pretty confined area within the downtown area that had been identified for use of the Streetscape funds. There were two locations that seemed to be appropriate. One was the kiosk area on the corner of Bridge and Durkee Street and the other one was either attached to or close to the little Information Booth/Italian Ice near Macdonough Monument. One of the reasons that was actually suggested by Jesse Feiler because he's been working on and helping promote the Saranac River Trail and he thought that might be a good location. And we might have enough money to do both locations to just provide some historical public information about our historical sites. The good thing is they both have power. He and Jesse will be talking about those issues along with the security of it.

Councilor Jackson said one thing Mark talked about was a TV touch screen type of thing.

Corporation Counsel John Clute said those things are possible and we have to pursue this a little bit further. The technology is there to do it and I think we just have to talk a little bit more about how durable those are.

Jesse Feiler said the issue of access to these devices when they are at eye level and hand level is so not a Plattsburgh issue.

Councilor Jackson said I will go with whatever you guys recommend.

Councilor Carpenter said this sounds like something that's going to hold a lot of information. Who will control that information that goes on there?

Corporation Counsel John Clute said it's going to be basically a joint venture relationship between the City and the LDC. Because the LDC vehicle provides a little more flexibility I think in terms of how you go about hiring subcontractors and some of this might be subcontracted out, marking the space, programming the signs that kind of thing. The first thing is can we use the \$25,000 for this. If the answer is yes then I'll be back with an agreement between the City and the LDC to define how much sign time is allocated to public service and other events which will probably be a significant part of it. And how much of it will we be able to make available to city businesses and things for advertising time generating revenue that will to cover the cost of maintaining and programming and actually selling the time on the sign. The revenue potential from this is enough to cover that cost.

Councilor Calnon said I think this is a marvelous idea.

Councilor Tiffer said I want people to understand we're not building a highway sign. This isn't going to be a mammoth sign that's going to be controversial. This is going to be nice for the downtown it's going to fit in that area. I think its going to be a huge upgrade especially to that kiosk.

Corporation Counsel John Clute said this downtown area or the area that we have to use this grant money in it's not a designated a historic district but the State Historic Preservation office says its historically sensitive district. I think they have some input in whatever we propose to put up and it's nobody's intention to change or destroy the character of whatever we have down here.

Mayor Kasprzak said I appreciate that and Mark thanks for the update earlier, Jesse thanks for all your help we appreciate it we really do.

11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Tiffer

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:51 pm